

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 146506
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:KPGARLAND:JJ

APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE

AF/E:RPOST

S/S-O-RCASTRODALE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146506

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS - FOR CHARGE FROM MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: WOLLO FAMINE EMERGENCY

1. I REALIZE THAT FAO TEAM IS JUST ARRIVING IN ADDIS
TO DO COMPLETE SURVEY OF FOOD NEEDS IN WOLLO EMERGENCY,
OGADEN EMERGENCY, AND LOCUST EMERGENCY. I ALSO REALIZE
THAT YOU AND PRINCETON LYMAN HAVE BEEN WORKING CLOSELY
WITH ETHIOPIAN RRC TO DEVELOP RESPONSE TO WOLLO EMERGENCY
WHICH HAS ALREADY LED TO \$203,000 OF OFDA FUNDS AND
\$250,000 OF AID/AFR REPROGRAMMED FUNDS BEING UTILIZED
(NOT TO MENTION LAST FALL'S \$2 MILLION UNDP TRUCK
CONTRIBUTION).

2. NONETHELESS, I AM CONCERNED THAT WE MAY NOT BE DOING
AS MUCH AS WE COULD IN THE SHORT-RANGE BOTH TO HELP
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WOLLO AND LOCUST VICTIMS AND DEMONSTRATE THE VALUE OF
ETHIOPIA'S TIES WITH THE USG. GIVEN THE GROWING
EVIDENCE OF DISASTER AND THE INTEREST BEING GENERATED
BACK HERE, I AM RELUCTANT TO WAIT 3-4 WEEKS FOR FAO REPORT
BEFORE MOVING ON FOOD FOR PEACE. SHIPPING TIME WILL
ALREADY DELAY DELIVERY LONG ENOUGH. DO YOU BELIEVE YOU
HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION NOW TO REQUEST THAT SOME AMOUNT

OF FFP BE MOVED TOWARD ETHIOPIA? HAVE THE SUPPLIES OF
FOOD REPORTEDLY STOCKPILED IN ASSAB BEEN DEPLETED TO

POINT WHERE FFP NEEDED? I AM TOLD YOU NEED TO (1)
CERTIFY THE NEED, AND TO (2) CERTIFY FFP CAN BE
TRANSPORTED TO SITE OF NEED. FOR THE LATTER, IT SEEMS
PARTICULARLY FORTUITOUS THAT THE DJIBOUTI RAILROAD IS
OPENING JUST NOW. CAN FFP BE MOVED TO WOLLO THROUGH
DJIBOUTI? SIDE BENEFIT WOULD BE TO PUBLICIZE HUMANI-
TARIAN USE OF RAILROAD SO AS TO WARN SOMALIS NOT TO
TOUCH IT.

3. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS VIA STADIS ON THIS
MATTER OR, IF YOU DEEM IT APPROPRIATE, BEGIN AUTHORIZA-
TION PROCEDURES THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS. HERE IS AN
OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE WHAT WE CAN DO IN AND FOR
ETHIOPIA (AS COMPARED TO OTHERS) AND PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

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